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Dresden 28th Oct 1778

Respected sir,

It gives me great satisfaction that Providence has placed so worthy a friend and acquaintance in so important a station as you are now in. I am now, Sir, within the limits of the New state of Vermo where I expected to have enjoyed the sweets of liberty and overnment in the greatest simplicity and freedom, but I find by experience this uncultivated wilderness yealds political product of various kinds in great plenty — a specimen of which you have doubtless latly received in Congress; and perhaps ere this comes to hand you will have received by Col Ethan Allin. To give you Sir a particular account of the politicad situation of the affairs of this new state, would be too lengthy for a letter and the present opportunity. Would be only say that we have not only N.Y. and N.H. to defend against, ut that which is worse than both, (viz) the old Green Mountain onstitution (clothed under the name of civil government) ising in its full spirit and vigour under their old leader. — his has thrown the state into the greatest confusion and disorder at present, however the more judicious and steady people settled on onnetticut River, are endeavouring to bring matters to a speedy and miable settlement if posible. for a more full understanding of the matter must refer you to Col. Jonathan Wheeler, who will be able with what exhibets he will have with him, and his own personal

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knowledge to give you, Sir, a more full and particular account, it is supposed Col Allen will be sent to congress by the Governer and some of the council, to make some overtures for the speedy settlement of the state of Vermont under its present circumstances which will if effected tend to the greatest confusion. therefore in behalf of many respectable inhabitants of this new state as well as for my-self desire that congress would not do any-thing respecting this state until they be fully availed of all the circumstances attending it which will be drawn and published as soon as may be Sir as it is unknown who the other delegates from connecticut at congress are, if you think proper to communicate this letter to them, it will be acceptable. I am Sir

with much esteem your sincere friend and
very humble servant
Elisha Payne.

Honorable Roger Sherman

PS Sir as a specimen of the conduct of a certain leader and chief farmentor of the present troubles in this state. I cannot omit just informing you of the following anecdote (viz) in the open assembly, when the written information of Col Allen from congress was in agitation, I asked Col Allen in a public manner this question (viz) whether the delegates of N H when he was at congress did not agree with him that in case he would get the union with the towns on the east side of conneticut river disolved that they would then assist them (that is the remain

-ing state of Vermont) in the dispute with N Y to which he answered, with a clap of his hand, yes they did upon Honor.

E P.